



Meeting **GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS COMMITTEE**

Date **Wednesday 3 May 2023 (commencing at 10.30am)**

membership

COUNCILLORS

Philip Owen (Chairman)
John Lee (Vice-Chairman)

Richard Butler
Errol Henry JP
Andy Meakin
Michael Payne - **Apologies**
Sue Saddington

Helen-Ann Smith - **Apologies**
Nigel Turner
Roger Upton

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Sue Batty - Adult Social Care & Public Health
Glen Bicknell - Chief Executives
Catherine Haywood
Simon Lacey
Kate Morris
Marjorie Toward
Nigel Stevenson
Peter McConnochie - Children and Families
Lynda Poole

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Andrew Smith - External Auditor, Grant Thornton.

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 22 February 2023, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:

- Councillor Helen-Anne Smith (Other Reasons)
- Councillor Michael Payne (Other Reasons)

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

None.

4. UPDATE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL CARE OMBUDSMAN DECISIONS (FEBRUARY 2023 TO MARCH 2023)

The report set out information about two complaints against the Council where fault was found by the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions of officers and seek assurance about actions put in place from the relevant departments regarding those complaints.

Whilst Members acknowledged that work was underway to mitigate issues around capacity, they raised concerns around the Authority's ongoing ability to complete and review Education Health and Care Plans within statutory timescales, and the impact that this would have on an ongoing basis.

RESOLVED: 2023/18

That members note the findings of the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman and welcome the lessons learned and actions taken to the findings.

5. GOVERNANCE & ETHICS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

RESOLVED: 2023/19

That the Governance and Ethics endorses the Annual Report and recommend that Council considered the achievements of the Governance and Ethics Committee and endorses its intended areas of focuses for the current year

6. LOCAL CODE OF CORPROATE GOVERNANCE 7 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2022-23

RESOLVED: 2023/20

(1) That the committee approves the Annual Governance Statement 2022-23

(2) That the Committee keeps the content of the Local Code of Corporate Governance under review through the in-year governance update reports, to ensure the impact of the Cabinet/Scrutiny model of governance is accurately reflected in the Code

7. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2022-23 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

RESOLVED: 2023/21

That members approve the Authority's 2022-23 Accounting Policies.

8. INFORMING THE AUDIT RISK ASSESSMENR 2022-23

RESOLVED: 2023/22

That the Committee accepts the "Informing the Audit Risk Assessment for Nottinghamshire County Council for 2022-23" document supplied by the External Auditors

9. EXTERNAL AUDIT – ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT 2021-22

RESOLVED: 2023/23

That the Committee accepts the External Auditors' Annual Report 2021-22

10. WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED: 2023/24

That the work programme be agreed.

The meeting closed at 10:54am

CHAIRMAN